UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/664
23 October 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 97 (b)

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT: ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 48/173 of 21 December 1993, the General Assembly welcomed the transformation of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) into the Southern African Development Community (SADC), aimed at deepening and expanding the process of economic integration and cooperation in the region and the economic and political reforms under way within the Community, which are intended to better address the challenges of regional cooperation and integration in the 1990s.

2. The General Assembly commended the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that had maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Community and called upon the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that had not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of doing so.

3. The General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community; and also requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the same resolution.

II. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

A. Action taken by Member States

1. Denmark

4. In its implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/173, Denmark has been channelling Danish assistance for regional cooperation in southern Africa in line with the development priorities of SADC. The sectoral orientation of the assistance has been determined through consultations with the SADC countries on the basis of the SADC Programme of Action. In 1994, Danish support to SADC-related projects and programmes amounted to 140 million Danish kroner (DKr).

5. Subsequent to the entry into force of the new SADC treaty, in 1991, the focus of Danish assistance has gradually shifted from supporting physical investments towards institutional capacity-building. The shift has involved support to a number of sector coordination units of SADC and to projects within them, including the Southern African Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC). In the area of private sector development, Denmark has provided funds for the Nordic/SADC (NORSAD) fund established with a view to facilitating trade and investments between private businesses in the SADC countries and in the Nordic countries.

6. Within the overall objective of supporting democracy at all levels and creating conditions for enhanced gender equality, Denmark is providing financial and technical support for a research and educational trust entitled Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA). Finally, during the severe drought in southern Africa in 1992/93, Denmark responded to the SADC appeal for emergency assistance to the region by making available more than DKr 50 million to individual SADC countries for emergency purposes.

2. Finland

7. Within its overall development cooperation programme, Finland has supported the following SADC programmes: a regional development project for forestry training colleges, the SADC gene bank (Nordic project) and the SADC consultancy fund (Nordic project).

3. Greece

8. In order to assist the southern African region to fully implement its Programme of Action, and acting both as a Member State of the United Nations and of the European Union, Greece has undertaken various initiatives in the region. In 1994, it contributed 50 million drachmas (Dr) (approximately US$ 230,000) to the biannual Zambian programme for the construction of a hospital in the town of Mkusi. The programme is being assisted both by the Government of Greece and by the Greek Section of the non-governmental organization Médecins sans frontières. In Malawi, the Greek Section of Médecins sans frontières participated in 1994 in the rehabilitation of 150,000 Mozambican refugees. The Government of Greece contributed Dr 13 million (approximately $60,000) to this programme. During the Mozambican general elections, in October 1994, 10 Greek electoral observers were part of the European Observer Mission which worked in cooperation with the United Nations Operation in Mozambique.

4. Italy

9. At the Conference of Rome on Mozambique, in December 1992, which followed the signing of the Peace Agreement, in October 1992, Italy pledged 162 billion lire towards programmes to be implemented during the period 1993-1995 for the social reintegration of displaced persons, refugees and demobilized soldiers, and to finance the elections and electoral activities of Mozambican political parties.

10. In 1994, Italy contributed 15 billion lire to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Trust Fund for the financing of the elections; 3 billion lire to the new United Nations Trust Fund to assist political parties to meet their election expenses and a further 8 billion lire to the United Nations Trust Fund to assist the Resistência Nacional Moçambicana (RENAMO) to transform itself into a political party. In addition, Italy contributed 5 billion lire to the UNDP Trust Fund for the social reintegration of demobilized soldiers, 10 billion lire to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs

Trust Fund, and 3 billion lire to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

11. During the past two years, Italy has been assisting in the implementation of a number of projects in Angola. At the end of 1993, 2 billion lire was allocated for a nutritional programme to help children at risk (six months to five years of age). Thirty-four nutritional centres were set up to help more than 6,600 children, in part through collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP). Food aid valued at 10 billion lire has been distributed through the programme. In addition, Italy has contributed 1 billion lire to an education programme for school-age children implemented by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

12. Italy has allocated 2 billion lire to United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) programmes, providing health and nutritional assistance to high-risk populations. A programme on mine awareness will entail a contribution of 1 billion lire to UNICEF. Italy has also contributed 1 billion lire towards a World Health Organization (WHO) project establishing a team at Luanda to serve as a coordination centre for emergency activities in health care. Finally, 6 billion lire is earmarked for 1995 for programmes to assist demobilized soldiers and their families, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies.

13. Cooperation activities in South Africa that had been initiated before the establishment of the new democratic Government are continuing and have reached an amount of approximately 30 billion lire. Funds are currently being set aside for a new cooperation programme in the context of the Reconstruction and Development Plan of the South African Government. In the meantime, 1.6 billion lire will be earmarked for the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA).

5. Japan

14. During the five-year period 1990-1994, Japan provided a total of US$ 1.37 billion in assistance to the SADC countries. Its development aid to those countries increased from $167.17 million (21.1 per cent of total official development assistance (ODA) to sub-Saharan Africa) in 1990 to $401.97 million (35.1 per cent) in 1994. The following table gives a breakdown of Japanese bilateral ODA to individual SADC countries for 1993 and 1994.

Countries	1993	1994
	(In millions of United States dollars)	
Angola	0.10	0.11
Botswana	1.68	3.04
Lesotho	0.13	1.38
Malawi	24.13	100.26
Mozambique	18.92	43.32
Namibia	14.28	9.78
Swaziland	3.30	7.13
United Republic of Tanzania	88.83	104.65
Zambia	90.86	106.71
Zimbabwe	28.20	25.59
Total	270.43	401.97

15. In July 1994, Japan pledged US$ 1.3 billion in financial assistance to South Africa over the next two years. The pledge includes a $500 million line of credit and an equal amount in trade and overseas investment insurance, and $300 million in assistance financed through the Export-Import Bank of Japan. In January and April 1995, the Bank also approved a $300 million loan for the South African electric authority Electricity Supply Commission (ESKOM) and a $100 million loan for the Southern Africa Development Bank, respectively.

16. On 25 August 1995, on the occasion of the SADC summit held at Johannesburg, the Government of Japan announced that it would contribute $200,000 to SADC projects in the areas of regional integration and human resources development, particularly in the agricultural sector, to be implemented by the Southern African Centre for Cooperation in Agricultural Research. In November 1994, the Secretary-General of SADC held talks with Japanese officials in Tokyo with regard to experts from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) visiting the SADC secretariat to discuss issues related to aid coordination with SADC officials.

17. During 1993, Japan contributed $20,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, $10,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Publicity against Apartheid, and $660,000 and $700,000 to UNETPSA in 1993 and 1994, respectively. In addition, Japan contributed $500,000 towards UNHCR projects for the settlement of South African political refugees and $360,000 for International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) projects in South Africa during 1993. Japan contributed $7.5 million towards vocational training for black South Africans under the Japan-European Union joint programme during 1993-1994, $1.5 million in grant assistance for grass-roots activities and $2.7 million for the participation of black South Africans in JICA seminars on the development of vocational and agricultural skills.

6. Luxembourg

18. During the period under review, Luxembourg's emergency assistance to Angola included a contribution of 5 million francs in food aid and medical projects implemented by ICRC, and 380,000 francs in food aid for children in Huambo during 1994. In 1995, Luxembourg contributed 6 million francs in food aid projects implemented by WFP and 4 million francs to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for its agricultural rehabilitation programme in Angola.

19. During 1994, Luxembourg contributed 4 million francs in food and health projects for Mozambican refugees. It also provided 10 million francs in emergency assistance and 5 million francs in food aid and development assistance to Namibia. Luxembourg and Namibia have concluded a number of agreements regarding the financing of seven projects to be implemented over the next two to three years and costing 135 million francs.

7. Netherlands

20. In 1995, cooperation of the Netherlands with SADC will be maintained at the current disbursement level of approximately 350 million guilders (f.) to the region as a whole. The main emphasis is on structural development, through cooperation in food security, rural development, development of human resources and the transport sector, and protection of the environment.

21. Since the inception of the then SADCC, the Government of the Netherlands has recognized the crucial importance of the development of the Beira Corridor Transport System. Therefore, the larger part of its support to SADC has been allocated to the transport sector. Over the past 15 years, accumulated support to the port of Beira has reached f. 100 million.

22. From the annually disbursed f. 350 million, about f. 12 million is disbursed to regional projects. For instance, the Government of the Netherlands has contributed and still contributes annually approximately f. 1 million to the SADC early warning system and will start financing an SADC programme in energy services for small-scale users. The Netherlands is also providing f. 10 million annually to support regional emancipatory, energy, research, health and veterinary programmes.

8. Sweden

23. Swedish cooperation with SADC has been mainly directed at supporting the two areas considered to be priority sectors by the SADC countries, that is, infrastructure and transport and communications. Support has also been given to the energy sector. About two thirds of Sweden's disbursements of 1.7 billion Swedish kronor (SKr) since 1981/82 has been allocated for the rehabilitation of the transport system in Mozambique, Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Beira and Dar es Salaam corridors.

24. Within the telecommunications sector, Sweden, together with Norway, is financing four microwave links between Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe; between Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe; between Namibia and Botswana and between Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania. Additional support is being given for the installation of an international telecommunication switchboard in Mozambique.

25. With regard to the railway system, equipment for telecommunication and signal systems has been delivered to Botswana, while railway cars, produced by a factory in Zimbabwe, have been delivered to the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA). Large rehabilitation schemes, including activities related to harbours, railway tracks, embankments and roads, are under way in Dar es Salaam and Beira. Activities are also planned for the Lobito corridor.

26. In the energy sector, studies have been financed on the power distribution between Malawi and Mozambique. Power distribution from Cabora Bassa in Mozambique to Harare is also an important part of the Swedish contribution. Swedish support has also been given for the reconstruction of the power plant Kafue Gorge in Zambia and to training activities linked to this project.

27. With regard to natural resources, Sweden has financed, among other activities, the creation of a regional gene bank and has provided technical support to the SADC secretariat for environment and soil conservation at Maseru. A consultancy fund has also been established for the SADC secretariat at Gaborone.

9. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

28. The United Kingdom has supported SADC over many years, particularly in the area of transport infrastructure, including capital aid. The aim of many of the projects has been to reduce the dependency of SADC on the transport routes through South Africa. During the period 1991 to 1995, United Kingdom aid was as follows:

Year	Financial aid	Technical cooperation	Total
	(In thousands of pounds)		
1991/92	3 988	5 113	9 101
1992/93	1 760	4 241	6 001
1993/94	1 239	3 180	4 419
1994/95			3 000 a/
Total	6 987	12 534	22 521

a/ Estimate.

29. United Kingdom funding of SADC has steadily declined from its peak in 1991/92, with an estimated expenditure for 1995/96 of £2.5 million. This reflects the changing role of SADC within southern Africa, and particularly the

entry into SADC of the Republic of South Africa. The United Kingdom believes that SADC is changing from a channel for donor funds for infrastructure projects to an organization committed to enhancing regional cooperation. It is up to SADC member States, not donors, to determine the pace and priorities of integration and cooperation.

30. The United Kingdom considers SADC as one of a number of possible conduits for regional activities and United Kingdom aid to southern Africa. Future United Kingdom assistance will be based entirely on technical cooperation grants, and no new financial aid projects are being considered. The United Kingdom will seek to support projects that can deliver genuine short-term benefits from regional cooperation and that cannot be achieved more effectively through national-level support.

31. Nevertheless, the United Kingdom remains a strong supporter of SADC. The United Kingdom played a positive role in the 1994 European Union/SADC Conference in Berlin, which was attended by the Minister of Overseas Development. The United Kingdom remains willing to consider support for practical, action-oriented programmes identified by SADC.

B. Action taken by the United Nations system

1. Department for Development Support and Management Services of the United Nations Secretariat

32. At the present time, the Department has 118 ongoing development cooperation projects in the SADC countries. These activities cover public administration and governance, electoral assistance, support to aid coordination, development programming, energy, water and natural resources for development. The focus of the projects is on human resources development and institution-building.

2. United Nations Children's Fund

33. In October 1994, UNICEF and SADC held a joint symposium on national programmes of action and goals for children, at which ministers and senior officials from 10 of the 11 SADC countries discussed progress in the implementation of their respective national programmes of action for children and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Resolutions adopted at the meeting called upon SADC to play a major role in southern Africa in monitoring the progress of national programmes and advocacy for children, facilitating multi-country action in key areas such as pandemic disease control, product standardizatio[illegible] and regulating the iodization of traded salt. In addition, salt producing and importing countries held a follow-up meeting in late 1994, under the auspices of the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), with the participation of SADC.

34. Although the SADC Council of Ministers did not decide to establish a sector programme on children, it welcomed the initiative by the SADC secretariat and UNICEF to facilitate a review of progress towards child goals on an inter-country basis. A symposium is under discussion for 1996, with possible

focus on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. During 1995, the UNICEF Regional Office continued to work with the secretariat in developing analytical materials on major issues affecting southern African children, including human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and is exploring possible collaboration with the human resource development sector in the area of basic education. UNICEF country offices in the region have been assisting Governments in the assessment of health, nutrition and water needs arising from the 1994/95 drought and in preparation for the launching of a regional drought programme and consolidated appeal by SADC during 1995.

3. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

35. During the period under review, the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) assisted in drawing up the SADC draft protocol on trade cooperation, which is currently being reviewed by member countries, and provided advisory services at the 1995 SADC annual consultative conference on matters related to rules of origin, enterprise cooperation and institutions.

36. In 1994, UNCTAD completed activities in Mozambique in the field of multimodal transport and trade facilitation. These activities were part of the "Intermodal Transport and Customs Facilitation Programme" component of the World Bank Road and Coastal Shipping (ROCS) project. The objective of the programme was to foster sustainable growth of Mozambican foreign trade by correcting the inefficiencies of the transport and trade system. The programme compiled, reviewed and implemented measures to facilitate trade flows, promote national transport activities, increase awareness of efficient commercial practices in international trade, and modernize the customs administration.

4. United Nations Development Programme

37. Since 1982, the United Nations Development Programme has provided assistance to SADC for a total value of US$ 16,415,636 in support of various sectors, especially transport, petroleum, mining, food security and education. These projects were designed to complement the Community's main objectives during those years.

38. In support of private sector activities in southern Africa, UNDP has recently launched new initiatives through various channels. In 1994, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) published a study entitled "Industry in southern Africa: the impact of change". Similarly, UNDP and the African Business Round Table organized a subregional African executive forum in Botswana in June 1995.

5. United Nations Environment Programme

39. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is involved in a number of joint activities with the Environment and Land Management Unit of SADC. Nearly all member countries of SADC suffer from critical environmental problems that

continue to undermine development efforts. UNEP has responded to these concerns by strengthening its partnership with the Community.

40. UNEP support for the implementation of the Kalahari-Namib Desertification Control Action Plan complements the Community's land management efforts. UNEP is also providing assistance for the implementation of the Integrated Development Action Plan on the Zambezi River. In the area of environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting, UNEP is assisting in expanding the Community's environmental networks and establishing geographical/environmental information systems, in strengthening environmental impact assessment practices and in developing guidelines and methodologies to integrate environmental preservation and development. UNEP is providing substantial assistance in developing national environmental legislation and in strengthening the Community's capacity to negotiate and implement international agreements, as well as in the training of personnel through its fellowship programme.

6. World Food Programme

41. The value of WFP food aid to SADC countries in 1994 amounted to US$ 226 million. Assistance to agricultural, rural and human resources development absorbed $23 million and emergencies and displaced persons operations absorbed $203 million. An additional $39 million was channelled through WFP for extrabudgetary expenditures.

42. In response to the devastating crop failure in several SADC countries in 1992, WFP committed approximately $350 million for commodities and transport for the relief effort. Although the 1994/95 crop season started poorly in many SADC countries, the overall drought was less severe than in 1992. WFP has committed $49 million for commodities and transport in five of the most seriously affected countries. WFP is building mitigation and recovery mechanisms into emergency operations and development activities as drought conditions seem to recur with frequency in the SADC region.

43. In Mozambique, a major portion of the displaced population returned to their places of origin during 1994. WFP and other United Nations agencies worked closely with Governments in the region and the international community to provide food assistance in support of reintegration programmes. WFP continues to provide the displaced population with food assistance in Angola and is working with the Government in support of the peace process and in reintegration programmes. WFP is assisting the United Republic of Tanzania in providing food for Rwandan refugees and supporting logistics projects that will have a long-term development impact on the country's transport infrastructure.

44. WFP also procures cereals and other commodities in the region for use in feeding operations in the region and elsewhere. From January 1994 to June 1995, WFP purchased commodities worth $108 million from the region.

7. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

45. In 1995, the Centre's missions to Angola undertook human settlements analyses and proposed a community-based rehabilitation programme, screened project proposals and finalized them for consideration at the round table held at Brussels in September 1995. The Centre also fielded missions to South Africa to assess the priorities of the new Government and to assist in formulating an effective housing finance system.

46. The Sustainable Dar es Salaam Project (SDP) supports the City Council in developing sustainable solutions to priority environmental issues such as solid waste, servicing urban land, air quality, surface water, coastal area resources, recreational and tourism resources and urban agricultural production. The Centre also assisted the United Republic of Tanzania in conducting a human settlements review and needs assessment, which formed the basis for the national programme for human settlements development. Similarly, the Centre has provided technical assistance to the Government of Mozambique in the formulation of a long-term programme of support to the housing and urban development sector. The Centre also participated with UNDP in the formulation of an area-based integrated approach to rehabilitation in war-torn areas.

47. The Centre is helping to execute the UNDP National Shelter Strategy and Implementation of a National Housing Programme for Namibia, which won the Habitat Award for 1993. Several projects focusing on helping poor urban communities to improve their living environment have been implemented in Zambia with support from UNDP and the Government of Denmark. In Zimbabwe, the Centre has participated in developing the public works programme component of the National Poverty Alleviation Action Plan, using sectoral support funds.

8. International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT)

48. The International Trade Centre (ITC) has maintained close collaboration with the SADC secretariat. In 1988, ITC initiated two interrelated projects for the SADC subregion: RAF/26/50 Direct Assistance in Export Packaging (financed by the Government of Finland); and RAF/37/06 Development of Effective Quality Control Standards and Testing Services for export products and packaging (financed by the Government of Italy). These two projects were completed by early 1994.

9. International Labour Organization

49. Until February 1995, SADC had no activities in the areas of employment and labour, as those areas were the domain of the Southern African Labour Commission (SALC). The International Labour Organization (ILO) has maintained close links with SALC since 1980, when the Commission was established. ILO, together with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), has provided secretariat services for SALC, pending the establishment of an independent secretariat. During the same period, SALC cooperated closely with SADC.

50. The SADC Council of Ministers, meeting at Lilongwe in January 1995, decided to establish a new Employment and Labour Sector and to absorb SALC in the SADC Human Resources Development Sector. Zambia is to provide permanent and full-time secretariat services to the Sector. ILO will continue its cooperation with the new Employment and Labour Sector.

51. Over the years, ILO has provided assistance to the SADC countries and to liberation movements through technical cooperation projects and research and advisory services. These have included employment planning and the creation of jobs and infrastructure through labour-intensive public works, vocational training and rehabilitation, migrant labour questions, workers education, management development and cooperatives. These initiatives are expected to continue.

52. At the February 1995 meeting of SALC at Maseru, ILO was asked to prepare a study on the application of national and international labour standards in the export processing zones from a subregional perspective by 1995/96. ILO was also asked to formulate a subregional code of conduct on HIV/AIDS in the workplace. Reports on these two issues are to be submitted at the next meeting of the new Sector. ILO was also requested to carry out studies on child labour in member States. An ILO study on labour market issues in southern Africa in the 1990s and beyond was also discussed. The study will cover migrant labour, mobility of high-level manpower and development of human resources as the highest priority for the formulation of future SADC policies on labour markets.

10. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

53. FAO maintains regular contact with the SADC Food Security Technical and Administrative Unit at Harare. In consultation with the Unit, FAO is reducing its direct technical support to the SADC Regional Early Warning System for Food Security (REWS) after capacity-building support to SADC member States at both the national and the regional levels.

54. Through its Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS), FAO fielded, jointly with the World Food Programme, a series of crop and food supply assessment missions to the drought-affected countries of southern Africa. These missions were conducted in cooperation with the regional and national early warning units in the SADC region. The findings of these missions have been disseminated to the international community through special reports. In addition, GIEWS has cooperated closely with the SADC Regional Early Warning Unit (REWU) on the establishment of a cereal supply/demand monitoring module and on plans to transfer the GIEWS computer workstation software and databases to the SADC early warning systems.

55. At the end of 1993, FAO started the implementation of the second phase of a project entitled "Remote Sensing Component to the SADC Regional Early Warning System", financed by the Government of the Netherlands, for a period of three years. Cooperation between FAO and SADC has also continued in the area of health and nutrition. A subregional workshop on the control of mycotoxins other than aflatoxins in foods was held at Gaborone, from 12 to 16 December 1993. Sixteen participants from eight SADC countries attended the workshop. A quality

assurance sample programme is being organized in cooperation with the University of Botswana and will cover all mycotoxin laboratories in the SADC countries.

56. The SADC Regional Training Centre for Middle-level Personnel for the Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis, supported by FAO, continues to function effectively. Various country-based courses provided support to institutional strengthening and trypanosomiasis control programmes in the region.

57. In addition to projects assisting the development of the seed sector in almost all SADC countries, FAO organized a regional workshop on improved on-farm seed production for the SADC countries, at Mbabane, from 22 to 26 November 1993, with financial support provided by the Government of Austria.

58. FAO participated in the 1994 consultative conference at Gaborone and presented a paper on "Promoting cooperation and integration in southern Africa". FAO also participated in the 1995 consultative conference at Lilongwe and contributed to developing SADC programmes for the implementation of its agricultural integration strategy for 1995. FAO participated in a joint SADC/UNICEF symposium on national programmes of action and goals for children, held in August 1994.

59. FAO assisted SADC to set up and operate a technical cooperation network on plant quarantine. Assistance included the provision of a computer and an electronic database to each national plant quarantine service in the SADC area in order to facilitate the exchange of information on all aspects of plant protection and quarantine and the eventual harmonization of related legislation, inspection procedures and control measures.

60. Aquaculture for Local Community Development (ALCOM) is an interregional programme funded by Sweden, Belgium and FAO, which aims at improving the standard of living of rural smallholders in the SADC area through fish production from small water bodies and through aquaculture. The programme is officially included in the SADC Programme of Action, although it is not an SADC-operated project. The third phase of the programme is expected to end in December 1996.

11. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

61. Through its field offices in the SADC region, UNESCO has carried out regional and subregional programmes in several areas reflecting regional priorities. In December 1994, a field office was also established in South Africa following the establishment of the new Government.

62. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions, and at the request of SADC member States represented on its Executive Board, UNESCO has taken steps to formalize its relations with SADC. In October 1994, the SADC Executive Secretary made his first official visit to UNESCO. In February 1995, UNESCO was represented for the first time at the annual SADC consultative conference, held in Malawi. A focal point for SADC relations and coordination has been appointed

in the Directorate attached to the Office of the Director-General. Missions and contacts take place regularly between UNESCO and the SADC secretariat.

63. UNESCO and SADC officials are working on a draft memorandum of understanding, which is expected to be ready for signature after approval by the Executive Board at its 147th session, in October 1995. The agreement will define broad areas of cooperation and set down modalities for joint action and regular consultation between the two organizations in areas of common interest.

64. In support of the SADC draft agreement for shared watercourse systems in the southern African region, which was to be discussed at the SADC Summit held in South Africa in August 1995, UNESCO has been designing a regional programme for training and research in the area of water use management in collaboration with the Government of South Africa for the benefit of all SADC member States.

12. World Health Organization

65. In 1995, WHO and SADC discussed the possible establishment of a health, population and social welfare sector at the regional level. Together with other agencies and the donor community, WHO attended an SADC appeal conference at Geneva in June 1995. An intercountry workshop organized by WHO called for the setting up of an SADC health learning materials resource and training centre in 1996.

66. At a country level, WHO continues to support the formulation and implementation of health policies of SADC member States, including consultations with the chief nursing officers of several SADC countries and national workshops on human resource development and health sector reform, as well as emergency and rehabilitation assistance to Angola and Mozambique. WHO also collaborates with governmental and non-governmental organizations in South Africa on substance abuse prevention.

13. World Bank

67. The World Bank's total commitments to SADC member countries for the period 1991-1995 were US$ 4.5 billion (International Development Association: $4.1 billion). Of this, $1.9 billion was in the form of fast-disbursing assistance to support structural adjustment programmes in those countries. Apart from structural adjustment, lending priorities include the following: private sector development, poverty alleviation, and development of human resources and physical infrastructure.

68. The World Bank is currently assisting in the implementation of structural adjustment programmes in Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. As Angola resumes its normal economic life, the World Bank will re-engage itself in the rehabilitation of shattered infrastructure and promote accelerated capital investment. Aid coordination to these countries is being provided through consultative groups chaired by the World Bank. For Lesotho, aid coordination is provided through United Nations-sponsored round-table meetings. Although lending activities to South Africa have not yet taken

place, necessary preparations have been completed to permit swift response to possible government requests for assistance in areas such as human resources, housing, infrastructure, and small enterprise development. A change is imminent in the nature and volume of World Bank assistance to Namibia. The Government has recently requested assistance in the restructuring and privatization of a large parastatal and in the development of infrastructure for its export processing zone around Walvis Bay.

69. The World Bank has for many years been engaged in activities related to economic integration. Projects have included major infrastructure development and execution of regional studies with significant investment and efficiency implications. Studies in progress cover hydrological management, indigenous knowledge systems in agriculture and forestry, and environmental management. Direct technical assistance has been provided to SADC headquarters to enhance its professional capacity.

70. The Cross-Border Initiative (CBI) is a significant programme co-sponsored with the European Union, the African Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund. CBI is aimed at creating a policy and institutional framework for facilitating cross-border private investment, as well as direct foreign investment, through reforms in the trade regime, exchange and payments systems, investment promotion and financial sector reforms, and relaxation of cross-border labour movements. CBI has received wide support among the SADC member States and is currently in various stages of preparation and implementation in Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

14. International Monetary Fund

71. Consistent with the present focus of SADC on market integration, the policy work carried out by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in SADC countries has focused on opening their economies to the advantages of larger markets, regionally and globally. In the context of the Fund's country work on surveillance and structural adjustment programmes, important reforms, notably those relating to the liberalization of trade and exchange systems and the financial sectors, are aimed at fostering market integration.

72. In this regard, IMF has sought to address the regional dimension of reforms relating to trade, investment and payments through the Cross-Border Initiative (CBI), which is being sponsored by IMF, the African Development Bank, the World Bank and the Commission of the European Union. In helping the participating countries to develop their CBI policy, IMF has tried to harmonize the scope and pace of reforms among countries. Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe are already participating in CBI and other SADC member countries are welcome to join in the initiative.

73. With regard to institutional links between SADC and IMF, the SADC secretariat is undertaking a review of areas in which IMF assistance could be beneficial.

15. Universal Postal Union

74. For the period 1990-1994, SADC countries benefited from the technical assistance programme provided by the Universal Postal Union (UPU). Multi-year integrated projects for postal development were funded by UPU to provide fellowships and consultants to Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

75. UPU implemented a UNDP-funded project in the United Republic of Tanzania and has recently drawn up a postal development project for Angola which will be submitted for funding. UPU has also awarded individual fellowships to Angolans in the past few years.

16. World Meteorological Organization

76. Cooperation between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and SADC has been conducted mostly through the Southern African Transport and Communications Commission, which is responsible for the coordinated development of meteorological services within the SADC region. The major development efforts include the following:

(a) The Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA)/SATCC/WMO Meteorology Project, started in 1987 and ended in 1995. Funds for the project amounting to approximately US$ 15 million were provided by the Finnish Government through its development agency, FINNIDA. These funds were used for fellowship training of SADC nationals in various specialized fields of meteorology for the purchase and installation of meteorological instruments and equipment and for field experts and consultants;

(b) WMO contributed to the establishment of institutions that foster regional integration, particularly in support of the various socio-economic development initiatives. The Drought Monitoring Centre (DMC) at Harare was established in 1991 with UNDP support and provides early warnings to the SADC countries on the occurrences of drought and other adverse weather conditions. Other institutions in southern Africa that are part of WMO centres are the Regional Telecommunication Hub (RTH) at Lusaka, the RTH at Pretoria and the Regional Instrument Calibration and Maintenance Centre at Gaborone.

17. World Intellectual Property Organization

77. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) provides various advisory services and training to the region.

78. In July 1993, in cooperation with the Government of Namibia and with the assistance of the Government of Sweden, WIPO organized a regional general introductory course on industrial property. During the period under review, WIPO granted training fellowships to government officials from all 11 SADC countries.

18. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

79. While the United Nations Industrial Development Organization was not in a position to take major initiatives at the subregional level, its technical assistance services to SADC member countries at the national level has been significant.